ROBINSON GRAY

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December 3, 2018

Litigation + Business

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd Chief Clerk / Administrator Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, SC 29210

RE: Application of Carolina Water Service, Inc. for Approval of Annual Rate

Adjustment Mechanisms and Petition for Accounting Order

Docket No. 2018-358-WS

Dear Ms. Boyd:

On November 14, 2018, we filed an application for Carolina Water Service ("the Company") for approval of a mechanism to allow the Company to pass through, on an annual basis, rate increases from its providers of wholesale water and wastewater treatment services. The application did not seek approval of any specific rate increases, and we asked that it be considered without the necessity of notice and a hearing. On November 21, 2018, the Office of Regulatory Staff wrote to request that customers be given notice of the application and that the matter be scheduled for a hearing.

The application is on the Commission's agenda for the meeting to be held on December 5, 2018. The purpose of this letter is to address a possible administrative issue. Should the Commission agree to the ORS request that the matter be noticed and scheduled for a hearing, we plan to amend the application so that we can also ask for approval of the pass through of rate increases that the Company has received prior to the date of the hearing. The possible amendment would affect the substance of the notice, of course, and we do not want to create unnecessary work for the Commission staff. Accordingly, we request that if the Commission decides to schedule this matter for a hearing, preparation of the notice be delayed until the Company files the amendment to the application.

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Thank you for your consideration of this request and please let me know if there are any questions.

Yours truly,

Frank R. Ellerbe, III

FRE:tch

cc w/enc: Jeffrey M. Nelson, Chief Legal Officer (via email)

Nanette S. Edwards, ORS Executive Director (via email)

Dawn M. Hipp, Chief Operating Officer (via email)

Catherine E. Heigel, President (via email)

Michael R. Cartin, Director, External Affairs and Strategy (via email) Robert Hunter, Financial Planning & Analysis Manager (via email)